

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ADDIS 01712 01 OF 02 221116Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08
DHA-02 /082 W

-----221142Z 037430 /12

R 221020Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3202
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ADDIS ABABA 1712

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, ET, SW
SUBJ: SWEDISH AID REPORT ATTACKED

SUMMARY: ETHIOPIAN PRESS VEHEMENTLY DENOUNCED JANUARY 1
SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (SIDA) REPORT
WHICH NOTED PERSECUTION OF ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION-
ARY PARTY (EPRP), SUMMARY EXECUTIONS OF EPRP MEMBERS AND
GOVERNMENT RIGGING OF URBAN DWELLERS ASSOCIATIONS ELECTIONS.
ARTICLE STATED PURPOSE OF REPORT TO HARM IMAGE OF ETHIOPIAN
REVOLUTION IN SWEDEN AND TO CREATE CONDITIONS FOR DELAY OR
CUT IN SWEDISH AID. SWEDISH EMBASSY AND GOVERNMENT LIKELY TO
HANDLE MATTER IN LOW KEY FASHION. END SUMMARY.

1. MARCH 20 ETHIOPIAN HERALD CARRIED LONG, VEHEMENT ATTACK
AGAINST QUARTERLY COUNTRY REPORT ON ETHIOPIA OF SWEDISH
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY DATED JANUARY 1, 1977.
ARTICLE, WHICH IS TO BE CONTINUED, EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT
SIDA WITH ITS "RELATIVELY BETTER REPUTATION" SHOULD BE
WRITING REPORTS DIRECTED AGAINST ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION SIMILAR
TO "SPENCER" AND "LEVINE" REPORTS. ARTICLE STATED SIDA
REPORT DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO SUBVERT AND ISOLATE ETHIOPIAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ADDIS 01712 01 OF 02 221116Z

REVOLUTION AND TO CREATE CONDITIONS FOR DELAY OR CUT IN SWEDISH
AID TO ETHIOPIA AT TIME WHEN IT MOST NEEDED.

2. ARTICLE CLAIMS REPORT DISTORTION OF PRESENT CONDITIONS IN
ETHIOPIA, SYMPATHIZES WITH ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY
PARTY AND IS BASED ON ILL-FOUNDED FACTS AND RUMORS. ARTICLE
GOES TO CONSIDERABLE DETAIL TO DISCOUNT SIDA REPORT'S CLAIM THAT

EPRP MEMBERS PERSECUTED, THAT EPRP MEMBERS SUMMARILY EXECUTED AND THAT YOUNGSTERS HAVE BEEN SHOT IN THEIR HOMES IN FRONT OF THEIR PARENTS. ARTICLE DEFENDED EXECUTIONS, WHICH HAD BEEN REPORTED IN ETHIOPIAN MEDIA LAST FALL (ADDIS ABABA 11836 AND ADDIS ABABA 11455), BY NOTING THAT COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY DEEDS PERPETRATED BY THOSE EXECUTED MADE THEM LIABLE TO THE LAW. IT STATED IN ONLY ONE CASE HAD YOUTHS BEEN SHOT AT HOME, AND THAT DURING SIEGE. ARTICLE STATED PURPOSE OF SIDA REPORT TO GIVE IMPRESSION THAT TERROR AND PERSECUTION REIGNING IN ETHIOPIA.

3. ARTICLE NOTED IMPERIALIST MASS MEDIA AND CIA-FINANCED MAGAZINES SUCH AS AFRIQUE-ASIE REFER TO EPRP AS MARXIST PARTY AND EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT SIDA REPORT WOULD DO LIKEWISE. ARTICLE ATTACKED REPORT FOR MAKING DISTINCTION BETWEEN REACTIONARY ROYALIST ETHIOPIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION (EDU) AND PETTY BOURGEOIS REVOLUTIONIST EPRP, BOTH OF WHICH ARE REACTIONARY GROUPS. ARTICLE NOTED IN PAST WESTERN PRESS HAD DESCRIBED EPRP AS UNDERGROUND MARXIST ORGANIZATION, BUT RECENT FEBRUARY ISSUE OF TIME HAD DESCRIBED EPRP AS PART OF ".....STUDENTS AND BUSINESSMEN." EPRP COULD NOT BE DESCRIBED AS MARXIST PARTY.

4. ARTICLE ATTACKED SIDA REPORT FOR ITS STATEMENTS ON KEBELE ELECTIONS, STATING REPORT'S COMMENTS WERE TRUE TO ITS FRIENDS EPRP, EDU AND CIA. ARTICLE DISCOUNTED REPORT'S CLAIMS THAT NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTIONS WERE HELD IN PRESENCE OF UNIFORMED POLICE AND MILITARY AND THAT OPPOSITION CANDIDATES WERE ARRESTED AND SHOT DOWN. ARTICLE STATED PRESENCE OF ARMED SECURITY FORCES NECESSARY TO PROTECT ELECTIONS FROM EPRP DISRUPTION AND CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ADDIS 01712 01 OF 02 221116Z

THAT SOME EPRP AGENTS WHO SOUGHT DISRUPT KEBELE ELECTIONS "WERE ARRESTED AND TO BE PRECISE WERE HANDED OVER TO KEBELE SECURITY FORCES."

5. ARTICLE THEN CRITICIZED SIDA REPORT STATEMENT THT KEBELE CANDIDATES HAD TO BE FURTHER SCRUTINIZED POLITICALLY AND APPROVED BY GOVERNMENT MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING. ARTICLE NOTED THAT DISQUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE WERE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ELECTORAL DECREES AND THAT PROCEDURE WAS NECESSARY TO PREVENT EPRP PENETRATION AND SUBVERSION OF KEBELES.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ADDIS 01712 02 OF 02 221135Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08
DHA-02 /082 W

-----221141Z 037626 /12

R 221020Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3203
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ADDIS ABABA 1712

6. FIRST INSTALLMENT CLOSED BY ATTACKING SIDA REPORT'S STATEMENT THAT "THESE AND OTHER UNDEMOCRATIC PRACTICES OF THE ELECTIONS HAVE MADE MANY ETHIOPIANS TO UNDERSTAND THE URBAN DWELLERS ASSOCIATION AS DEPENDENT INSTRUMENTS OF THE DIRG." ARTICLE NOTED SINCE AUTHOR HAD NEVER MADE ANY SYSTEMATIC SURVEY, "MANY ETHIOPIANS" CERTAINLY DIDN'T NUMBER MORE THAN TEN.

7. COMMENT: AS SOCIALIST COUNTRY, SWEDES HAVE BEEN MORE CONCERNED THAN MOST ABOUT EPMG EXCESSES AGAINST EPRP. VEHEMENCE OF ATTACK NO DOUBT BASED ON STATEMENTS IN REPORT SUPPORTIVE OF EPRP. DESPITE REALITY, IT ANATHEMA TO EPMG TO DESCRIBE EPRP AS MARXIST PARTY SINCE TO DO SO WOULD ACKNOWLEDGE EXISTENCE OF A MARXIST PARTY WHICH OPPOSE MARXIST REVOLUTION LED BY EPMG.

8. SWEDISH EMBASSY SOURCE INDICATED REPORT WRITTEN BY SIDA EMPLOYEE IN ETHIOPIA WHO DEPARTING TOMORROW. IT UNCLEAR IF HE WILL RETURN WHEN ISSUE DIES DOWN. ARTICLE ACCURATELY QUOTES FROM SIDA REPORT, WHICH DID NOT REQUIRE PRIOR CLEARANCE BY SWEDISH AMBASSADOR. SWEDISH DIPLOMATS UNHAPPY OVER PRESENT SITUATION AND AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS FROM STOCKHOLM ON HOW PROCEED. IT LIKELY THAT SWEDES, WHO HAVE BEST WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ADDIS 01712 02 OF 02 221135Z

EPMG OF ANY WESTERN COUNTRY WILL CHOOSE TO DOWNPLAY WHOLE ISSUE SINCE THERE LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF SATISFACTION FROM EPMG.

9. SWEDISH AID PROGRAM IN ETHIOPIA HAS BEEN EXPERIENCING ITS DIFFICULTIES FOR POLITICAL, HUMAN RIGHTS AND MORE MUNDANE REASONS. MORALE OF SIDA EMPLOYEES IN ETHIOPIA APPARENTLY LOW BECAUSE OF SECURITY SITUATION, PETTY HARRASSMENT BY GOVERNMENT AND KEBELE OFFICIALS, AND EPMG'S METHODS OF COUN-

TERING BOTH MARXIST AND NON-MARXIST OPPOSITION. IN ADDITION, SWEDISH GOVERNMENT RECENTLY INCREASED FUNDING FOR ALL AID RECIPIENT COUNTRIES WITH SOLE EXCEPTION OF ETHIOPIA. DECISION NO DOUBT INFLUENCED BY ANTI-EPMG ETHIOPIAN GROUPS IN SWEDEN, AS WELL AS SIDA STAFF HERE. EPMG TO RECEIVE 70 MILLION KRONER IN AID, WHILE SWEDISH EMBOFF INDICATED PRESENT PROGRAM COULD ABSORB 80-85 MILLION KRONER.

10. SWEDES HAVE ALSO STOPPED BRINGING NEW PERSONNEL INTO ETHIOPIA UNTIL SECURITY SITUATION IMPROVES. SWEDISH EMBOFF HAS SENT HIS WIFE HOME FOR EARLY SUMMER HOLIDAY BECAUSE OF SECURITY SITUATION AND ONE SWEDISH EMPLOYEE HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY MOVED TO HILTON HOTEL BECAUSE OF TENSE SECURITY SITUATION IN HIS NEIGHBORHOOD.

GDS-DECLASSIFIED DEC. 31, 1983.

TIENKEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, PRESS COMMENTS, ALLEGATIONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS01712
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770097-0999
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770337/aaaabfso.tel
Line Count: 186
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a9fe34b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3041235
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWEDISH AID REPORT ATTACKED SUMMARY: ETHIOPIAN PRESS VEHEMENTLY DENOUNCED JANUARY 1 SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (SIDA)
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, ET, SW, EPRP, SIDA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a9fe34b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009